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Legal sanctuary not a part of Marcos asylum

By Jeremiah O'Leary
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The White House yesterday said the asylum granted to former Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos by President Reagan does not provide the deposed ruler with shelter from the legal system.

Larry Speakes, the presidential spokesman, said there is no U.S.-Filipino extradition treaty, nor has the government of President Corazon Aquino raised any question of extradition.

Mr. Reagan, he said, had determined that offering asylum to Mr. Marcos and his group of about 90 associates and family members was in the best interests of U.S.-Filipino relations.

Mr. Marcos and his group were flown to Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, on a U.S. military plane in an 11th hour action to prevent bloodshed in the aftermath of the hotly contested Feb. 7 Philippine election.

Mr. Speakes said the Marcos group is in the United States under the attorney general's parole authority, which guarantees them safe haven and protection from harm.

"I don't think we can give them diplomatic immunity," Mr. Speakes said. "It would have to be the Filipino government which did that."

He said he did not know if the Customs Service has completed its inventory of possessions of the Marcos group, which included a separate plane load of crates containing currency and other personal possessions.

Mr. Marcos has yet to make any decision on where he wishes to go when he leaves Hawaii. Mr. Reagan will arrive at Hickam Field, en route to Indonesia, on April 26 and remain there through April 28. But there are no plans for Mr. Reagan and the former Filipino president to meet, according to Mr. Speakes.

The new government of Corazon Aquino estimates Mr. Marcos has \$7 billion in U.S. holdings, including \$350 million in real estate in New York. About 22 crates flown to Hawaii with the Marcos party last week are said to contain about \$1.2 million in freshly minted Philippine pesos and other items of undetermined value.

In a related development, troops loyal to Mr. Marcos in Manila planned a series of bombings, arson and murders last month so he could declare martial law and prolong his 20-year rule, the official Filipino news agency said yesterday.

Quoting military intelligence sources it did not identify, the Philippine News Agency said the plot was frustrated by the military rebellion and civilian uprising that forced Mr. Marcos to leave the country Feb. 26. It was code-named "Operation Everlasting," the agency said.

It said the plan was devised Jan. 25 by the National Intelligence and Security Agency, which President Corazon Aquino has abolished. The agency was headed by Gen. Fabian Ver, Mr. Marcos' armed forces commander and longtime confidant, who fled with him.

Reformist military officers intercepted seven truckloads of firearms, explosives and ammunition as they were about to leave an arms depot at Camp Aguinaldo on Feb. 21, a day before Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Lt. Gen. Fidel Ramos, the deputy military commander, led a military rebellion, the agency said.

The arms and explosives were bound for the security agency's office on the presidential palace grounds and apparently were intended for the plotters, according to the agency report. It did not name the intended targets of the terrorism campaign.

On Jan. 25, the date the alleged plot was hatched, the presidential campaign was in its last stages before the Feb. 7 election, when it was becoming clear that Mrs. Aquino had a good chance of winning. The National Assembly declared Mr. Marcos the winner, despite widespread charges of fraud, precipitating the military-civil revolt that drove him from power.

In addition, at least 37 parcels of choice property in Los Angeles and San Diego counties were linked yesterday to Mr. Marcos, his family and a former starlet who claims to have been his mistress.

The properties, worth an estimated \$11 million, were listed in a report released at a news conference by California State Sen. Paul Carpenter.

Among those parcels listed were several lots in Beverly Hills and a 30-room palatial estate in Pasadena owned by Dovie Beams de Villigran, who claims to have been Mr. Marcos' lover, and her husband, Sergio de Villigran.

Three other properties reportedly belong to Mr. Marcos' sister, Fortuna M. Barba.

This article is based in part on wire service reports.